a financial product,

a swap,

a security,

a commodity,

a futures contract, and

a currency.

164.   The method of claim 65, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, 129, 137, 138 or 153 wherein at least one step is performed using the Internet.

165.   The method of claim 65, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, 129, 137, 138 or 153 wherein at least one step is completed in near real time.

166.   The method of claim 65, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, 129, 137, 138 or 153 wherein at least one step is performed using a database replication feature of a database management system.

REMARKS

In an email dated July 2, 2001, the examiner has indicated that Claims 76-81 and 88-93 should have been listed as allowed and offered to submit a supplemental PTO-326. Applicant has by email dated July 2, 2001, requested that the Examiner submit a supplemental PTO-326 to confirm this.

The Examiner has allowed claims 153 and 156. Claim 158 is dependent upon claims 153 and 156 and no other claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow claim 158.

In claims 163-166, replacing the references to claim 124 with references to claim 129 does not constitute new matter because claim 129 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 124 from which claim 129 was dependent.
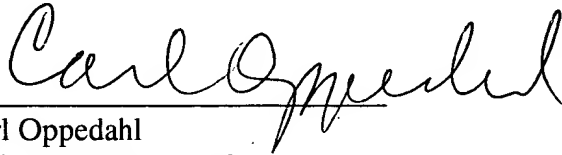
In claims 163-166, replacing the references to claim 131 with references to claim 137 does not constitute new matter because claim 137 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 131 from which claim 137 was dependent.

In claims 164-166, re-inserting the reference to claim 153 does not constitute new matter because each of claims 164-166 as initially filed contained a reference to claim 153.

Claims 163-166 have been amended so that they refer only to claims that remain in this application and have already been allowed by the Examiner. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow claims 163-166.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow all claims remaining in this Application, to wit: 65-75, 76-81, 82-87, 88-93, 94-123, 129, 137, 138-140, 153-157, 158, 163-165, 166 and 168.

Respectfully submitted,

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Separate sheet

129 (amended)   A method for an offer matching system to publish information about a first offer comprising the following steps:

       (a)   receiving from a first participant a first description of the first offer;

       (b)   associating the first offer with a first identifier, the first identifier not associated with any offer other than the first offer;

       (c)   if the first description did not disclose the first identifier, sending the first identifier to the first participant in a manner that discloses to the first participant that the first identifier is associated with the first offer;

       (d)   receiving from a second participant a description of a second offer;

       (e)   the offer matching system's executing the first offer at least in part against the second offer in accordance with a set of rules that govern the operation of the offer matching system;

       (f)   publishing a first data packet that comprises the first identifier and a first data item, the first data item concerning the first offer;

       (g)   a first information publishing system's receiving the first data packet; and

       (h)   the first information publishing system's publishing a second data packet that comprises:

              (1)   the first identifier and

              (2)   a second data item, wherein:

                     (A)   the second data item:

                            (I)   was not contained in the first data packet,

                            (II)   was calculated by the first information publishing system, and

                            (III)   concerns an item selected from the group comprised of

                                   the first offer and

_____ an execution of the first offer against the second offer; and

_____(B)   [The method of claim 128 wherein] calculation of the second data item depends upon a third data item that is not obtained from the offer matching system.

137. (amended)   A method for an offer matching system to publish information comprising the following steps:

_____(a)   receiving from a first participant a first description of a first offer;

_____(b)   receiving from a second participant a second description for a second offer;

_____(c)   associating the first offer with a first identifier, the first identifier not associated with any offer other than the first offer;

_____(d)   if the first description did not disclose the first identifier, sending the first identifier to the first participant in a manner that discloses to the first participant that the first identifier is associated with the first offer;

_____(e)   the offer matching system's executing the first offer at least in part against the second offer in accordance with a set of rules that govern the operation of the offer matching system; and

_____(f)   publishing a first data packet that comprises the first identifier and a first data item, the first data item concerning an execution of the first offer against the second offer.

_____(g)   a first information publishing system's receiving the first data packet; and

_____(h)   the first information publishing system's publishing a second data packet that comprises:

_____(1)   the first identifier and

_____(2)   a second data item, wherein:

_____(A)   the second data item:

_____(I)   was not contained in the first data packet,

_____(II)   was calculated by the first information publishing system, and

      (III)   concerns an item selected from the group comprised of

            the first offer,

            the second offer, and

            an execution of the first offer against the second offer; and

      (B)   [The method of claim 131 wherein] calculation of the second data item depends upon a third data item that is not obtained from the offer matching system.

163. (twice amended) The method of claim 52, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, [124] 129, [131] 137, 138 or 142 wherein the first offer is an offer to buy or to sell a quantity of a traded item selected from the group consisting of:

    a financial product,

    a swap,

    a security,

    a commodity,

    a futures contract, and

    a currency.

164. (thrice amended) The method of claim [52,] 65, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, [124] 129 , [131] 137 , 138 or [, 142, 143] 153 wherein at least one step is performed using the Internet.

165. (thrice amended) The method of claim [52,] 65, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, [124] 129 , [131] 137, 138 or [142, 143] 153 wherein at least one step is completed in near real time.

166. (thrice amended) The method of claim [52,] 65, 76, 82, 88, 94, 101, 109, 118, [124] 129 , [131] 137, 138 or [142, 143] 153 wherein at least one step is performed using a database replication feature of a database management system.